

Message Text

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12

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-03 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 ISO-00 /121 W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8544

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

ERDA GERMANTOWN UNN

USMISSION NATO

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 2738

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DISTO

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM CCD US RO

SUBJECT: CCD 691ST PLENARY MEETING, MARCH 4, 1976

SUMMARY: MARTIN (US) SET POSITION ON MAJOR ISSUES INVOLVED
IN POSSIBILITIES OF ENVIRONMENTAL WARFARE. ENE (ROMANIA) GAVE
STANDARD STATEMENT FOCUSING ON CCD ORGANIZATION OF WORK AND GENERAL
ROMANIAN POSITION ON DISARMAMENT. COMMITTEE AGREED TO HOLD
INFORMAL MEETING ON ORGANIZATION OF WORK ON FRIDAY, MARCH 5, AT
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1030 AM. END SUMMARY

1. MARTIN (US), RECALLING FOUR GENERAL ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN OPENING US STATEMENT FEB 17, OFFERED MORE DETAILED EXPOSITION OF US VIEWS ON PROHIBITION OF MILITARY OR ANY OTHER HOSTILE USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION (ENMOD) TECHNIQUES.

2. CONCERNING SCOPE OF DRAFT CONVENTION SUBMITTED BY US AND USSR, MARTIN SAID DEFINITION OF PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES EFFECTIVELY ELIMINATED DANGER OF HOSTILE USE OF ENMOD TECHNIQUES THAT COULD SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT ANOTHER STATE PARTY WHILE AVOIDING DIFFICULTIES OF IMPLEMENTATION THAT WOULD BE INVOLVED IF EFFORT WERE MADE TO DEAL WITH ESSENTIALLY TRIVIAL ISSUES. HE NOTED THAT IN US VIEW SOME HOSTILE USES OF ENMOD TECHNIQUES WOULD BE PROHIBITED ALTOGETHER, SUCH AS GENERATION OF EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMIS, CLIMATE MODIFICATION, AND STEERING OR INTENSIFICATION OF HURRICANES, WHICH WOULD INEVITABLY HAVE WIDESPREAD, LONG-LASTING, OR SEVERE EFFECTS.

3. MARTIN SAID THAT CONVENTION WOULD PROHIBIT HOSTILE USE OF TECHNIQUES INVOLVING DELIBERATE MANIPULATION OF NATURAL FORCES AS A WEAPON, NOTING THAT CONVENTION WAS NOT CONCERNED WITH DAMAGE TO ENVIRONMENT INCIDENTAL TO USE OF CONVENTIONAL MEANS OF WARFARE.

4. MARTIN RECALLED SUGGESTION MADE AT UNGA THAT CONVENTION PROHIBIT THREAT OF USE AS WELL AS ACTUAL HOSTILE USE OF ENMOD TECHNIQUES. HE SAID THIS COULD, IN US VIEW, RAISE DIFFICULTIES OF IMPLEMENTATION DISPROPORTIONATE TO POTENTIAL BENEFITS. WHILE EXPRESSING DOUBT THAT PROHIBITION OF THREAT WOULD ADD AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT TO BASIC PROHIBITION, MARTIN SAID US WAS PREPARED TO HEAR FURTHER EXPLANATION OF IDEA.

5. MARTIN SAID US RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONVENTION, SAYING THAT TWIN PROCEDURES SET OUT IN DRAFT--PROVISIONS FOR COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION AS WELL AS COMPLAINTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRECEDURE TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL--SATISFACTORILY MEET THIS NEED.

6. WITH RESPECT TO RELATION BETWEEN ENMOD CONVENTION AND LAWS OF WAR PROTOCOL, MARTIN EMPHASIZED IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO, ARGUING THAT DIFFERENCES OF PROVISION AND TERMINOLOGY WERE APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF DIFFERENT OBJECTIVES AND COVERAGE.

7. MARTIN STRESSED US VIEW THAT ENMOD CONVENTION SHOULD NOT SEEK TO DEAL WITH QUESTIONS OF PEACEFUL USES OF ENMOD TECHNIQUES. RECALLING SUGGESTION THAT CONVENTION INCLUDE POSITIVE COMMITMENT CONCERNING COOPERATION IN PROMOTION OF PEACEFUL USES, MARTIN SAID THAT IN VIEW OF LARGELY UNPROVEN BENEFITS OF PEACEFUL APPLICATION US DID NOT CONSIDER SUCH A COMMITMENT PRUDENT. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT ALL US ENMOD RESEARCH IS BEING CARRIED OUT ON UNCLASSIFIED BASIS AND SAID THERE WAS NO DESIRE ON US PART NOT TO SHARE TECHNICAL INFORMATION.

8. MARTIN AGAIN ENCOURAGED OTHER DELS TO JOIN IN DISCUSSION OF ENMOD CONVENTION ISSUES IN ORDER TO FURTHER EFFORT TO DEVELOP WIDELY ACCEPTABLE TEXT.

9. ENE (ROMANIA) GAVE STANDARD STATEMENT CALLING ON CCD TO ORGANIZE ITS WORK ON BASIS OF PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED BY UNGA. HE SAID ROMANIA CONSIDERED PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THE REAPPRAISAL OF THE CCD'S TASKS AND DUTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNGA RESOLUTION ON DISARMAMENT DECADE. HE ALSO REVIEWED MAIN POINTS OF ROMANIA POSITION PAPER ON DISARMAMENT ISSUES CIRCULATED AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

10. AT END OF MEETING, CHAIRMAN OF DAY READ PROPOSAL BY CO-CHAIRMAN THAT COMMITTEE HOLD INFORMAL MEETING ON ORGANIZATION OF WORK, INCLUDING FORMAT OF 1976 CCD REPORT AND US PROPOSAL FOR COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF CCD PROCEDURES, AT 1030 AM, FRIDAY, MARCH 5. PROPOSAL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY COMMITTEE WITH NO OBJECTION.

11. NEXT PLENARY MEETING 1030 AM, TUESDAY, MARCH 9.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENMOD, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, WEATHER MODIFICATION, ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA01662
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760083-0966
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760396/aaaadgmvtel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CCD 691ST PLENARY MEETING, MARCH 4, 1976 SUMMARY: MARTIN (US) SET POSITION ON MAJOR ISSUES INVOLVED
TAGS: PARM, US, RO, CCD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006